

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 388

By Jones

A RESOLUTION to recognize Sharon Peters on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of service; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Peters is one such estimable person, who has served with distinction for fifteen years as part of our legislative family; and

WHEREAS, Sharon will be taking a much-deserved retirement on May 31, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Sharon Peters joined Tennessee's legislative branch the old-fashioned way: She answered an ad in the newspaper, one placed by Representative Carol Chumney, chair of the House Children and Family Affairs Committee; and

WHEREAS, she nailed the interview and was offered the job, so she moved to Nashville from Spokane, Washington, bringing her husband, Scott; four of her five daughters, Brandi, Meghann, Ashley, and Elise; and her mother, Madonna Johnson, with her. She reluctantly left behind her fifth daughter, Shannon, and her four grandchildren, but over the past fifteen years, Sharon has been blessed with many more grandchildren and has been visited many times by Shannon and her children; and

WHEREAS, following the resignation of Representative Chumney, Sharon Peters began working for the Senate, but she soon realized her grave mistake and returned to the House Children and Family Affairs Committee, becoming the executive legislative assistant to Vice Chair Sherry Jones, a position to which she has dedicated her expertise and commitment to excellence ever since; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Sharon has been a godsend to Representative Jones, getting her where she needed to be, screening her calls, handling her constituent issues, and making those terrible excursions to the Department of Children's Services, and Sharon even dragged Representative Jones kicking and screaming into the 21<sup>st</sup> century when she forced the Representative to purchase a smartphone; and

WHEREAS, Sharon still has to help Representative Jones with the operation of the newfangled technological phenomenon, however, and the Representative is said to be in great distress knowing her technological lifeline will soon be leaving her side; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Sharon Peters has been much more than an astute, dedicated assistant, becoming Representative Jones's trusted and loyal friend and counselor; and

WHEREAS, her co-workers, friends, and family deeply appreciate Sharon's sense of humor, her sharp wit, and her seemingly unending supply of patience, all sterling qualities which, combined, make her a rarity here in Legislative Plaza; and

WHEREAS, as she enters into retirement, Sharon Peters leaves many friends, including Liz Leonard, with whom she has shared a suite for thirteen years, and Lenekra Hill, a suitemate for the past three years, each of whom will miss Sharon's smile, her laughter, her knowledge of all things electronic, and her unwavering friendship; and

WHEREAS, her presence will also be missed by Representatives John DeBerry and Brenda Gilmore, who have enjoyed the laughter and joy Sharon has brought into the office; and

WHEREAS, even though she hails from the West Coast and will soon be leaving us for sunny Florida, Sharon Peters exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Sharon has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues, and though we must do it with heavy hearts, it is fitting that she be recognized by the members of this General Assembly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED  
NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE  
CONCURRING, that we extend to Sharon Peters our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling  
retirement and every continued success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared  
for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.